



3626 en

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : David A. Martin  
FOR : CREDENTIALER MEDICAL MALPRACTICE  
INSURANCE COLLABORATION  
SERIAL NO. : 10/067,181  
FILED : February 4, 2002  
LAST OFFICE ACTION : n/a  
EXAMINER : Gilligan  
GROUP ART UNIT : 3626  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 30236.30018  
October 13, 2005

Customer #26781

\*\*\*\*\*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97 is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as  
first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**, Commissioner  
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the following date:

October 13, 2005

D.M. Kempthorn

D. M. Kempthorn

\*\*\*\*\*

Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the applicant files this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) under at least one of the following five circumstances:

- ☐ 1. **There is No Information to disclose:** No patent novelty search was performed in this case and neither the Applicant nor the undersigned are aware of any prior art devices or documents which they believe to be material to the invention as claimed. This document is being supplied for informational purposes to the Examiner and is evidence of our desire to comply with the duty of disclosure.
- ☐ 2. **Under § 1.97**, this IDS is filed with the knowledge that it will NOT be considered, but WILL be placed in the file, if
- (1) this IDS is filed BEFORE the grant of a patent; AND
  - (2) this IDS does NOT comply with the requirements noted below
- ☒ 3. **Under § 1.97(b)**, this IDS should be considered because it is being  
filed
- (1) within 3 months of the filing date of a national application, other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d); OR
  - (2) within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage of an international application as set forth in § 1.491; OR
  - (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; OR
  - (4) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114, whichever occurs last.
- ☐ 4. **Under § 1.97(c)**: this IDS should be considered because it is being  
filed after the period specified Under § 1.97(b) above, BUT
- (1) before either the mailing date of a final action under § 1.113 OR
  - (2) before the mailing date of a notice of allowance under § 1.311; OR
  - (3) before an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs last AND

it is accompanied by one of the following statements under § 1.97(e):

I, Daniel A. Thomson, Esq., the undersigned hereby state:

(a) ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement,

OR

(b) ☐ To the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement; OR

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 180.00 is enclosed to cover the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) as required when neither item (a) nor (b) above are selected.

☐ 5. Under § 1.97(d): this IDS should be considered because

- (1) it is being filed after the period specified Under § 1.97(c) above but ON OR BEFORE payment of the issue fee, AND
- (2) it is accompanied by one of the following statements under § 1.97(e):

I, Daniel A. Thomson, Esq., the undersigned hereby state:

(a) ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement, OR

(b) ☐ To the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement; AND

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 180.00 is enclosed for the petition fee as set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

In accordance with § 1.56 and § 1.97 the references listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of these cited documents are enclosed.

☒ Please charge deposit account No. 501210 if any additional fees are required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A, with initials or other appropriate marks.

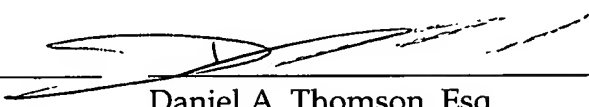
☐ Under new USPTO requirements, because the corresponding utility patent application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of any U.S. patents or published patent applications herein disclosed have not been attached. However, the appropriate patent numbers or publication numbers have been provided. The Applicant believes this to be true based on the attached waiver information as provided by Steven G. Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy.

Respectfully submitted,

BROUSE MCDOWELL

October 13, 2005

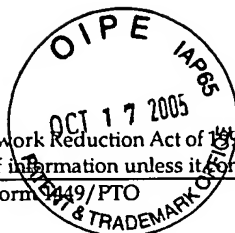
Date

  
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|---|---|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   | <b>Complete if Known</b>    |                  |                               |             |
|   |   | <b>Application Number</b>   | 10/067,181       |                               |             |
|   |   | <b>Filing Date</b>          | February 4, 2002 |                               |             |
|   |   | <b>First Named Inventor</b> | David A. Martin  |                               |             |
|   |   | <b>Art Unit</b>             | 3626             |                               |             |
|   |   | <b>Examiner Name</b>        | Gilligan         |                               |             |
| <b>Sheet</b>  | 1 | <b>of</b>                   | 2                | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 30236.30018 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |   |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Pages, Columns, lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures<br>Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If known) |                                |   |  |
|                       |                          | US-5,325,478                             | 06/28/1994                     | Shelton, et al.                                       |  |
|                       |                          | US-5,483,443                             | 01/09/1996                     | Milstein, et al.                                      |  |
|                       |                          | US-5,644,778                             | 07/01/1997                     | Burks, et al.   |  |
|                       |                          | US-5,701,423                             | 12/23/1997                     | Crozier   |  |
|                       |                          | US-5,758,324                             | 05/26/1998                     | Hartman, et al.                                       |  |
|                       |                          | US-5,787,434                             | 07/28/1998                     | Nakamura, et al.                                      |  |
|                       |                          | US-6,571,214                             | 05/24/2003                     | Newman, et al.  |  |
|                       |                          | US-                                      |                                |   |  |
|                       |                          | US-                                      |                                |   |  |
|                       |                          | US-                                      |                                |   |  |
|                       |                          | US-                                      |                                |   |  |
|                       |                          | US-                                      |                                |   |  |
|                       |                          | US-                                      |                                |   |  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |   |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Pages, Columns,<br>lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind<br>Code <sup>5</sup> (If known) |                                |   |   |                |
|                          |                          | EP 0 392 155 B1  | 07/09/1997                     | Shelton, et al.                                       |   |                |
|                          |                          |  |                                |   |   |                |
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|                               |  |                            |  |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Examiner<br/>Signature</b> |  | <b>Date<br/>Considered</b> |  |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the right of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9799) and select option 2.

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

|       |   |    |   |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

### Complete if Known

|                               |                  |
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| <b>Filing Date</b>            | February 4, 2002 |
| <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | David A. Martin  |
| <b>Art Unit</b>               | 3626             |
| <b>Examiner Name</b>          | Gilligan         |
| <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 30236.30018      |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

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